

Message Text

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SPC-03 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 L-03 NSC-10 PA-04 PRS-01 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19

IO-14 /216 R

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EB/IFD/OIA:CNELLIS (INFO)

AFR/CWA:AHELLIS

TREAS:MR. SHAPIRO

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R 130034Z NOV 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ACCRA

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 223407

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, EAID, PFOR, GH, IBRD

SUBJECT; GHANA DEBT MEETING

REF: (A) STATE 216334; (B) STATE 220517

1. IN MEETING WITH CHAUFOURNIER IN LONDON NOVEMBER 9, BOTH LE QUESNE AND BOOTHROYD INSISTED THEIR SCHEDULED PARTICIPATION IN KENYAN INDEPENDENCE ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS WILL PRECLUDE THEIR PRESENCE IN ACCRA AFTER DECEMBER 4. LE QUESNE SAID HE UNDERSTOOD DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY SMITH ALSO PLANNING BE IN NAIROBI FOR ANNIVERSARY AND WOULD BE UNABLE REMAIN ACCRA AFTER DECEMBER 4. LE QUESNE REPEATED
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SUGGESTION REPORTED REFTEL A THAT TALKS BE POSTPONED UNTIL

MID-JANUARY.

2. CHAUFURNIER STATED HIS OPPOSITION TO POSTPONEMENT OF MEETING. FOLLOWING TALKS WITH BRITISH, HE CABLED REITTER INSTRUCTING HIM TO URGE GHANAIS BE READY MEET NOVEMBER 26. REITTER ALSO INSTRUCTED INFORM GHANAIS THAT OTHER COMMITMENTS OF SOME CREDITORS WILL PRECLUDE NEGOTIATIONS AFTER EARLY DECEMBER.

3. BOOTHROYD TOLDCHAUFURNIER HMG TREASURY STILL INSISTS MEETING BE HELD OUTSIDE ACCRA. CHAUFURNIER REPLIED THAT HE HAD FULFILLED CREDITORS' INSTRUCTIONS TO INFORM ACHEAMPONG SOME CREDITORS OBJECT TO ACCRA AS VENUE. CHAUFURNIER REMINDED BOOTHROYD CREDITORS HAD AGREED VENUE WOULD NOT BE BREAKING POINT. BOOTHROYD REPLIED TREASURY NOT SATISFIED CHAUFURNIER HAS FULFILLED HIS INSTRUCTIONS ON THIS POINT. CHAUFURNIER RESPONDED HE BELIEVES HE HAS AND DOES NOT PLAN DO ANYTHING FURTHER. AFTER BOOTHROYD'S DEPARTURE, LE QUESNE EXPLAINED TO CHAUFURNIER THAT ONE OF BOOTHROYD'S SUPERIORS HAS CHOSEN MAKE AN ISSUE OF VENUE, PUTTING HER UNDER GREAT PRESSURE.

4. UK EMBASSY HAS INFORMED DEPARTMENT OF CHAUFURNIER-LE QUESNE-BOOTHROYD DISCUSSION IN LESS DETAIL THAN PRECEDING PARAGRAPHS, WHICH TAKEN FROM CHAUFURNIER'S BRIEFING FOR HIS STAFF. BRITISH ADD THAT CHAUFURNIER REQUESTED INFORM GHANAIS THAT CREDITORS WANT A RESPONSE TO NOVEMBER 26 SUGGESTION BY NOVEMBER 16. UK EMBASSY SAYS LE QUESNE'S OPPOSITION TO OPENING MEETING LATER IS QUOTE ABSOLUTELY FIRM UNQUOTE AND THAT LE QUESNE INSISTS NEGOTIATIONS WILL HAVE TO BE POSTPONED UNTIL JANUARY, IF GHANAIS UNWILLING MEET NOVEMBER 26.

5. FOR LONDON: IF OCCASION ARISES, PLEASE CORRECT RECORD REGARDING SMITH'S PLANS, WITHOUT REVEALING CHAUFURNIER AS SOURCE OUR INFORMATION ON LE QUESNE'S MISTAKEN BELIEF SMITH PLANNING ATTEND KENYAN CELEBRATION. RUSH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DEBT REPAYMENTS, NEGOTIATIONS, GOVERNMENT DEBTS, MEETING DELEGATIONS, MEETINGS, INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS, REPRESENTATION AT CEREMONIES, OPPOSITION PARTIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE223407
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JKBISHOP:JS
Enclosure: DG ALTERED
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731137/aaaabawv.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: (A) STATE 216334; (B) STATE 220517
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09-Jan-2002 by willialc>; APPROVED <07 MAR 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GHANA DEBT MEETING
TAGS: EFIN, EAID, PFOR, GH, KE, IBRD, (LE QUESNE), (BOOTHROYD)
To: ACCRA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005